Activity Title: Scalloping Across the Seafloor

Subject: The lesson addresses the geographic distribution of the Atlantic Sea Scallop.

Grade Level: High School

Average Learning Time: 2 hours

Lesson Summary: The student will gain an understanding of the relative abundance of the Atlantic Sea Scallop in various areas of the Atlantic Ocean and the factors that impact the population distribution.

Overall Concept: Why is it important to conduct surveys to estimate relative abundance of many finfish and shellfish species in the Northeast region of the Atlantic Ocean?

Specific Concepts: Sea Scallop surveys are conducted to determine the distribution and abundance in order to assess the populations in certain areas of the Atlantic Ocean and determine if they have been overharvested and need to be closed to commercial fishing for a period of time.

Focus Questions:

- 1. What is the life cycle of the Atlantic Sea Scallop?
- 2. What biological parameters affect the relative abundance of the Atlantic Sea Scallop?
- 3. What are some examples of predators of the Atlantic Sea Scallop?
- 4. What is the diet of the sea scallop and what method of feeding do they utilize?
- 5. What are the ideal water parameters that promote optimal growth for the sea scallop?
- 6. What are some examples of anthropogenic activities that have a negative impact on the sea scallop?
- 7. What are the two main methods that are used to conduct population surveys?
- 8. What data is collected at each station during each leg of the survey?
- 9. What does sustainability mean and how does it relate to this lesson?
- 10. How will the closure of low populated areas for a given amount of time help this species?

Objectives/Learning Goals:

- Students will simulate a sea scallop survey by participating in a game.
- Students will record real data of catch weights and catch numbers at random stations of the survey on a personal data sheet.
- Students will record possible natural and anthropogenic hazards of the Atlantic sea scallop on a personal data sheet.
- Students will interpret information collected and assess the sustainability of the species in the geographical areas.

- Students will research the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution's Habitat Mapping Camera (HabCam)
- Students will research the Fisheries Scientific Computer System

Background Information:

The Atlantic Sea Scallop is a bivalve belonging to Phylum Mollusca. Most of the world's largest wild scallop fisheries is for *Placopecten magellanicus* found in the northeastern United States in the Atlantic Ocean. Commercial fishing/harvesting can deplete scallop populations if their geographic distribution is not monitored and regulated. Surveys are conducted periodically to assess the abundance and overall health of the scallops to determine if certain areas need to be closed to commercial fishing. Two main methods that NOAA uses to conduct these surveys is by using an 8-foot dredge and using the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution's Habitat Mapping Camera System (HabCam) to do population counts.

The following activity uses real data collected in 2013 by NOAA Fisheries Service and Northeast Fisheries Science Center. Only data collected by dredging is reflected in the survey. The survey is divided up into three geographical areas: Leg 1, Leg 2 and Leg 3. There are a total of 192 stations which were randomly selected by a computer program.

Scallops that have been collected at each station are measured and weighed using the Fisheries Scientific Computer System. Groundfish and other organisms dredged up are also weighed, measured and counted. Scallops and other organisms are returned to ocean unharmed.

Common Misconceptions/Preconceptions:

- All scallops are sessile.
- All scallops have ridges on their shells.
- Scallop populations will never be completely depleted.

Materials: Game Board, one research vessel game piece, "Real Data" Station Cards (Packet), Student Data Sheets (each student), dice, instructions for playing the game, analysis questions, graph paper (optional), calculators if needed, internet access

Technical Requirements: Internet access to research key words

Teacher Preparation:

- Set up game boards and provide a marker for the research vessel. (see game board setup)
- Provide a "Real Data" packet for each group.
- Provide each student a Personal Data Sheet.

Keywords: Overfishing, commercial fishing/harvesting, maximum sustainable yield, renewable resources, Tragedy of the Commons, conservation, commercial dredging, Fisheries Scientific Computer System (FSCS System), Habitat Camera (Woods Hole)

Pre-assessment Strategy/Anticipatory Set

Show an example of an Atlantic Sea Scallop. (Placopecten magellanicus)

Lesson Procedure:

- 1. Read the background and research key terms.
- 2. Participate in the scallop game while recording data on personal data sheets. (See attached sheet for instructions on how to play the game)
- Calculate totals for catch weight and catch numbers for each Leg of the survey. (See attached data sheets – data is actual catch weights and numbers from the 2013 Sea Scallop Survey)
- 4. Answer Analysis Questions # 1 8. (See attached sheet)
- 5. Graph data collected for each Leg on the Sea Scallop Survey.

Assessment and Evaluation:

Students will use real data collected on the sea scallop survey to assess the population in each area (Leg) and determine the sustainability of the species in the Northwestern Atlantic Ocean.

Standards:

National Science Education Standard(s) Addressed:

- Unifying Concepts and Processes
- Science as Inquiry
- Life Science
- Science and Technology
- Science in Personal and Social Perspectives
- History and Nature of Science

Ocean Literacy Principles Addressed:

- Principle 5 The ocean supports a great diversity of life and ecosystems.
 - A, C, D, and F
- Principle 6 The ocean and humans are inextricably interconnected.
 - B, D, and G
- Principle 7 The ocean is largely unexplored.
 - C, and F

Additional Resources:

- Resource Survey Report Sea Scallop Survey (NOAA)
- NOAA Teacher At Sea Program 2013 data
- Status of Fishery Resources off the Northeastern US (NOAA)
- NOAA Fisheries Service Northeast Fisheries Science Center, Ecosystems Surveys Branch
- HabCam (habcam.whoi.edu)
- Sea Scallop, *Placopecten magellanicus*, Life History and Habitat Characteristics (nefsc.noaa.gov)

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Scalloping Across the Seafloor

Instructions for the game:

- 1. Each student rolls the die to determine what station to move the research vessel (*Hugh R. Sharp*) to. The vessel will be used by all players continuously throughout the stations until it reaches the last station (#192) of Leg 3.
- 2. Read and record the information on the station cards from the "Real Data" packet. (Catch weight (wt), numbers and environmental scenarios) on student data sheets.
- 3. Continue until the research vessel has reached the end of Leg 3. (#192)
- 4. At the end of the game, each student adds up their catch weights and numbers from their student data sheets.
- 5. "Winners" can be determined by either the highest catch weight or number or a combination of both (teacher's decision)
- 6. Add up all catch weights and numbers for the entire survey by Leg 1, 2 and 3. This can be divided up by groups.
- 7. Based on the data collected, assess and discuss each Leg to determine if the area surveyed is sustainable or needs to be closed to commercial fishing. Explain your answer.
- 8. Answer Discussion Questions #1 8.

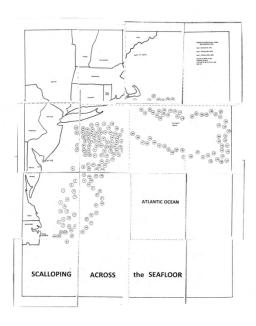
Extension:

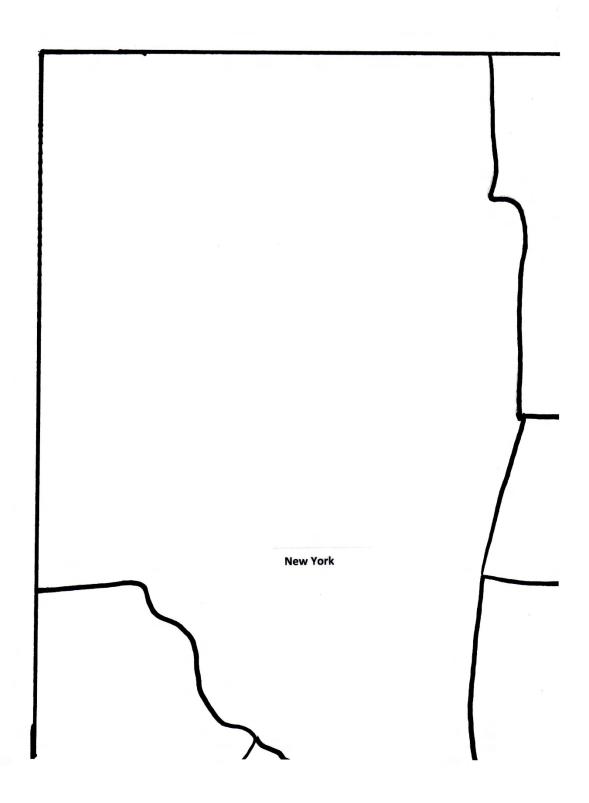
Students graph the data of each Leg of the survey.

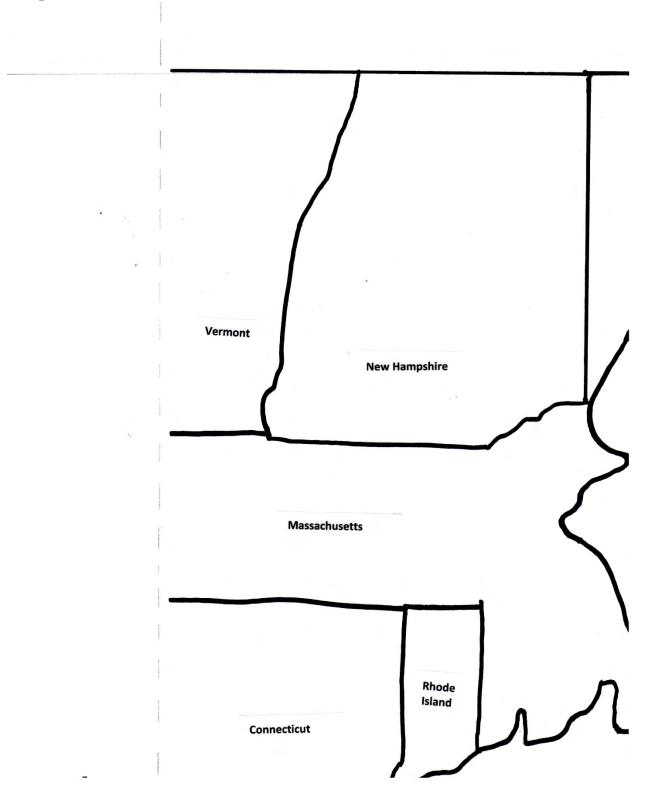
Game Board Assembly:

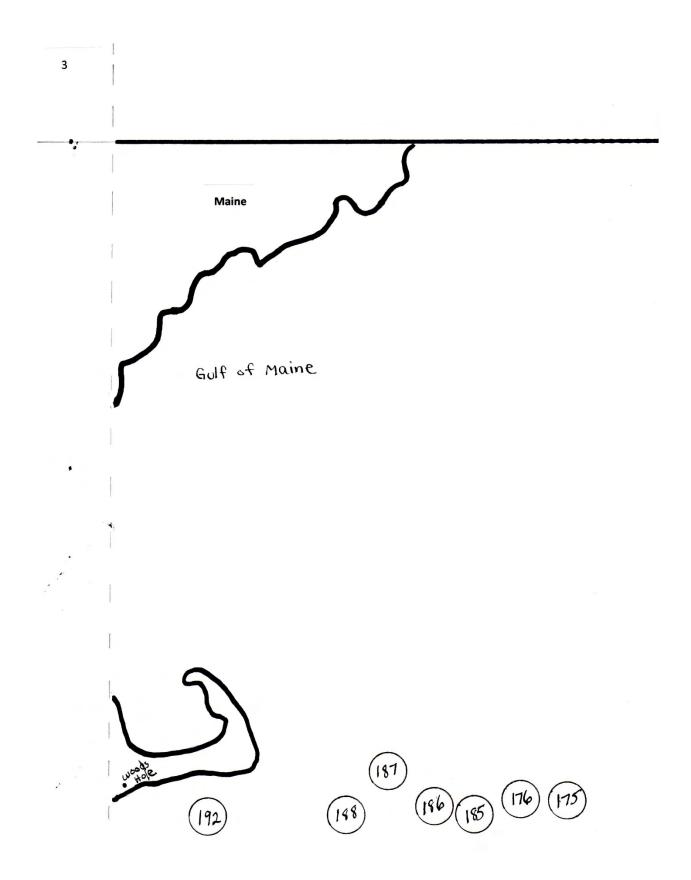
- 1. Duplicate all 16 sheets to the game board. Assemble each row of 4 sheets by placing sheet 4 down first. Next, place sheet 3 along the dotted line on the left edge of sheet 4. Tape together. The darker lines should line up. Next, place sheet 2 on 3 and sheet 1 on sheet 2. This is the top first row.
- **2.** Continue assembling the next three rows the same way. After all rows are done, tape the four rows together, lining up the sates and borders. Refer to the diagrams below:

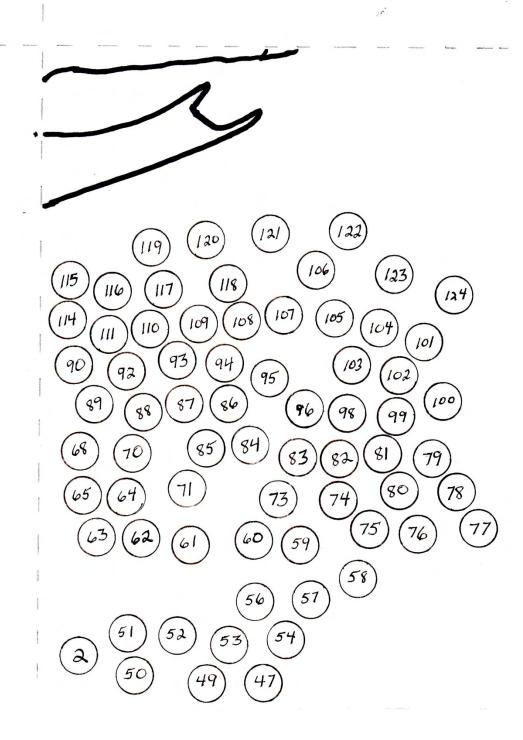
1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16

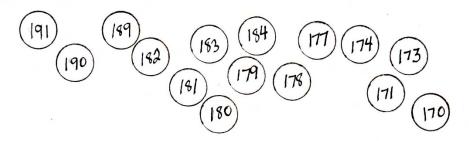




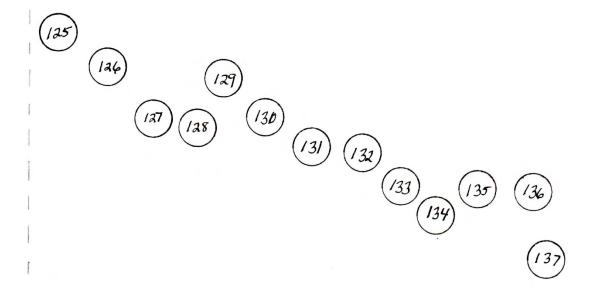


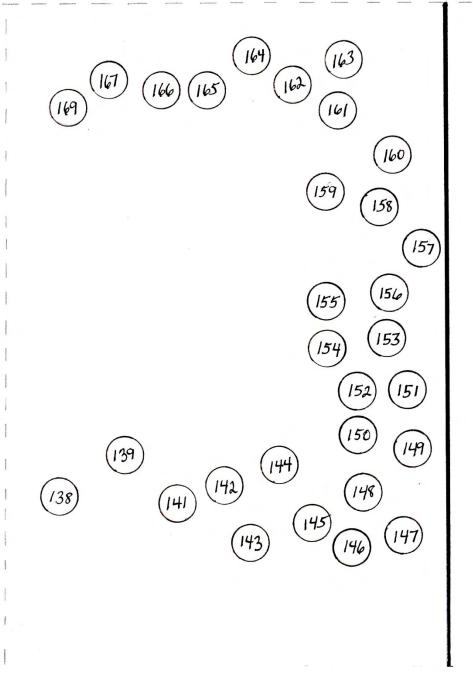




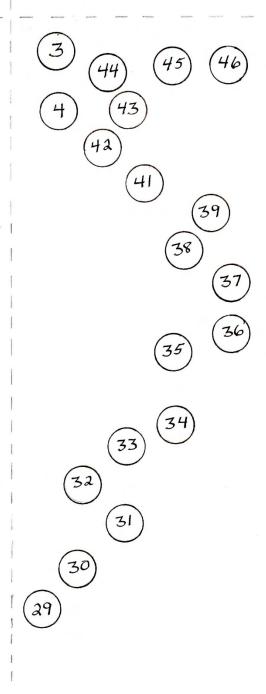


Georges Bank









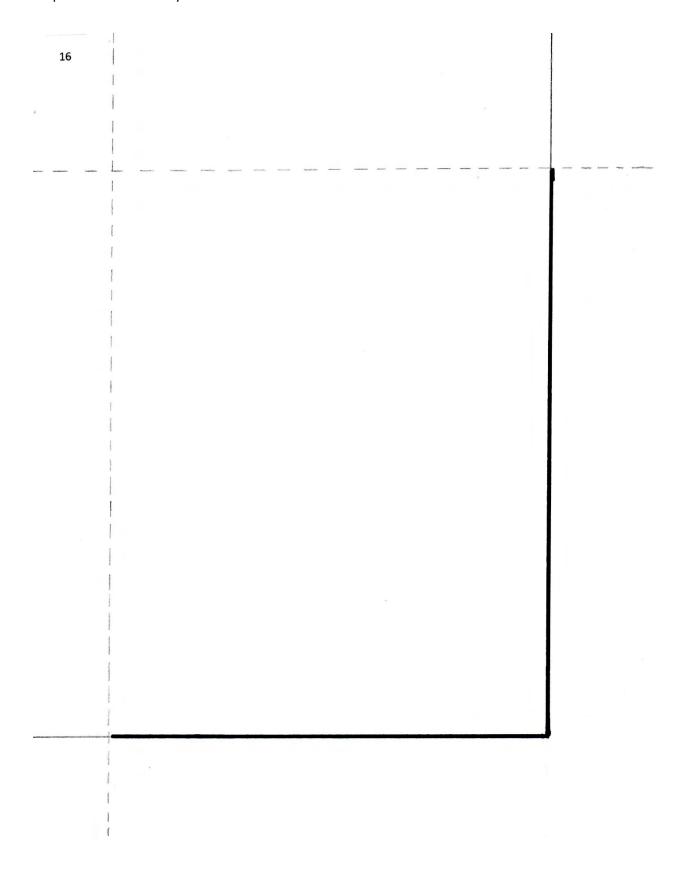
ATLANTIC OCEAN

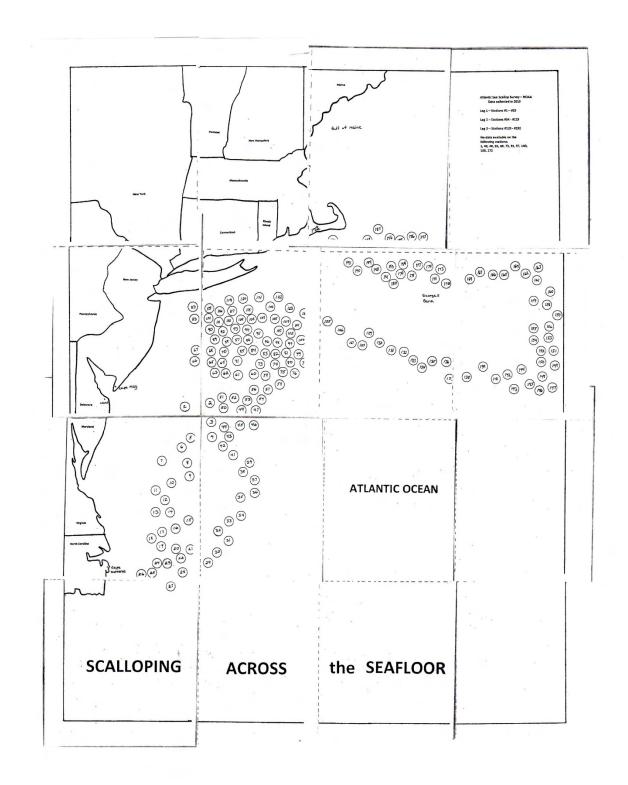
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SCALLOPING

ACROSS

the **SEAFLOOR**





Station #2	Station #3	Station #4
CATCHWT – 0.57 kg	CATCHWT – 15.960 kg	CATCHWT – 33.860 kg
CATCH # - 3	CATCH # - 395	CATCH # - 522
Low phytoplankton		
concentrations		
Station #5	Station #6	Station #7
CATCHWT – 16.040 kg	CATCHWT – 9.403 kg	CATCHWT – 22.425 kg
CATCH # - 459	CATCH # - 79	CATCH # - 293
0	0	0
Station #8	Station #9	Station #10
CATCHWT – 49.060 kg	CATCHWT – 384.480 kg	CATCHWT – 3.840 kg
CATCH # - 320	CATCH # - 5,984	CATCH # - 23
	Optimal temperature and	Commercial harvesting of
	salinity	scallops
Station #11	Station #12	Station #13
CATCHWT – 37.160 kg	CATCHWT – 19.621 kg	CATCHWT – 41.640 kg
CATCH # - 330	CATCH # - 209	CATCH # - 515
Station #14	Station #15	Station #16
CATCHWT – 24.020 kg	CATCHWT – 24.340 kg	CATCHWT – 164.700 kg
CATCH # - 85	CATCH # - 281	CATCH # - 2,080
		Low population of
		predators
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Atlantic Sea Scallop Survey

Real Data Packet (data collected 2013)

Station #18 CATCHWT – 34.160 kg CATCH # - 347	Station #19 CATCHWT – 1.940 kg CATCH # - 14 High population of sea stars (Astropectin americanus)
Station #21 CATCHWT – 26.680 kg CATCH # - 195	Station #22 CATCHWT – 21.720 kg CATCH # - 150
Station #24 CATCHWT – 5.160 kg CATCH # - 39 Delicate spat, do not survive on shifting sand botom	Station #25 CATCHWT – 18.021 kg CATCH # - 157
Station #27 CATCHWT – 44.500 kg CATCH # - 853	Station #28 CATCHWT – 23.460 kg CATCH # - 150
Station #30 CATCHWT – 28.850 kg CATCH # - 149	Station #31 CATCHWT - 24.760 CATCH # - 125 Station #34
	CATCHWT – 34.160 kg CATCH # - 347 Station #21 CATCHWT – 26.680 kg CATCH # - 195 Station #24 CATCHWT – 5.160 kg CATCH # - 39 Delicate spat, do not survive on shifting sand botom Station #27 CATCHWT – 44.500 kg CATCH # - 853 Station #30 CATCHWT – 28.850 kg

CATCHWT – 0.620 kg CATCH # - 2 Lethal salinity levels: lower than 16.5 ppt	CATCHWT – 7.219 kg CATCH # - 25 Schools of Atlantic cod and wolf fish in the area	CATCHWT – 29.800 kg CATCH # - 139
Station # 35	Station #36	Station #37
CATCHWT – 25.100 kg	CATCHWT – 28.740 kg	CATCHWT – 21.944 kg
CATCH # - 120	CATCH # - 143	CATCH # - 150
Station #38	Station #39	Station #41
CATCHWT – 36.817 kg	CATCHWT – 22.200 kg	CATCHWT – 20.440 kg
CATCH # - 370	CATCH # - 240	CATCH # - 164

Station #42 CATCHWT -8.400kg CATCH # - 26 Commercial fishing in the area	Station #43 CATCHWT -5.760 kg CATCH # -28 Ocean dumping in the area	Station #44 CATCHWT -25.340 kg CATCH # -106
Station #45 CATCHWT -7.680 kg CATCH # - 46 Boring polychaetes in the area (Polydora websteri)	Station #46 CATCHWT -45.700 kg CATCH # -347	Station #47 CATCHWT -47.640 kg CATCH # 342
Station #49 CATCHWT -5.520 kg CATCH # -105	Station #50 CATCHWT -4.440 kg CATCH # -30 Elevated concentrations of inorganic suspended material	Station #51 CATCHWT - 13.780 kg CATCH # -70 Eggs and juveniles fall prey to predators
Station #52	Station #53	

CATCHWT -17.780 kg CATCH # - 101	CATCHWT -17.440 kg CATCH # - 160	Leg 2
Station #54 CATCHWT – 8.760 kg CATCH # - 35	Station #56 CATCHWT – 13.920 kg CATCH # - 88	Station #57 CATCHWT – 43.880 kg CATCH # - 282
Many trawlers in the area Station #58 CATCHWT – 48.210 CATCH # - 267	Station # 59 CATCHWT – 1.300 kg CATCH # - 17 Winter and yellow tail flounder in abundance	Station # 60 CATCHWT - 0.142 kg CATCH # - 2 Commercial fishing in the area
Station #61 CATCHWT – 3.040 kg CATCH # - 27 Poor larval distribution	Station # 62 CATCHWT – 6.240 kg CATCH # - 45 High temperature of 24 degrees Celsius which is lethal	Station #63 CATCHWT – 12.060 kg CATCH # - 78
Station #64 CATCHWT – 11.936 kg CATCH # - 73	Station #65 CATCHWT - 0.094 kg CATCH # - 3 Overharvesting of adult scallops	Station #66 CATCHWT - 8.840 kg CATCH # - 43 High population of sea stars (Astropectin americanus)

Station #67	Station #68	Station #70
CATCHWT – 73.440 kg	CATCHWT – 0.212 kg	CATCHWT – 1.168 kg
CATCH # - 466	CATCH # - 1	CATCH # - 1,920
	Oil spill in the area	
Station #71	Station #73	Station #74

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CATCHWT – 18.079 kg	CATCHWT – 12.940 kg	CATCHWT – 1.855 kg
CATCH # - 35,707	CATCH # - 24	CATCH # - 6
Successful larval	Commercial fishing in the	Nutrient pollutants
distribution and bottom	area	disrupt the ecosystem
settlement		balance
Station # 75	Station #76	Station #77
CATCHWT – 2.508 kg	CATCHWT – 44.880 kg	CATCHWT – 25.513 kg
CATCH # - 3,674	CATCH # - 173	CATCH # - 234
Optimal water		
parameters and		
successful spawning		
Station #78	Station #79	Station #80
CATCHWT – 100.400 kg	CATCHWT – 0.564 kg	CATCHWT – 1.160 kg
CATCH # - 508	CATCH # - 4	CATCH # - 9
	Predators such as eel	Lack of success during
	pouts and sculpins in the	larval distribution
	area	
Station #81	Station #82	Station # 83
CATCHWT – 4.700 kg	CATCHWT – 8.580 kg	CATCHWT – 26.060 kg
CATCH # - 24	CATCH # - 35	CATCH # - 128
Eggs and juveniles eaten	No spawning due to	
by predators	water parameters out of	
	range such as salinity and	
	temperature	
Station # 84	Station # 85	Station # 86
CATCHWT – 5.820 kg	CATCHWT – 16.700 kg	CATCHWT – 46.000 kg
CATCH # - 27	CATCH # - 227	CATCH # - 536
Trawlers in the area,		
overharvesting		
Station # 87	Station #88	Station #89
CATCHWT – 52.920 kg	CATCHWT – 2.463 kg	CATCHWT – 0.038 kg
CATCH # - 63,589	CATCH # - 351	CATCH # - 8
Optimal water		High population of
parameters, successful		Atlantic cod and yellow
	1	I control of the cont
larval distribution and		tail flounder (predators)

Station # - 90
CATCHWT - 0.319 kg
CATCH # - 29
Evidence of pesticide
runoff in the area

Station # 92
CATCHWT - 1.300 kg
CATCH # - 3
Algal blooms that emit lethal toxins

Station #93
CATCHWT - 13.500 kg
CATCH # - 54
Commercial fishing in the area

Station # 94	Station # 95	Station #96
CATCHWT – 12.300 kg	CATCHWT – 32.980 kg	CATCHWT – 9.073 kg
CATCH # - 61	CATCH # - 620	CATCH # - 439
Habitat degradation due		
to excessive dredging		
Station #98	Station #99	Station #100
CATCHWT – 16.060 kg	CATCHWT – 6.700 kg	CATCHWT – 8.395 kg
CATCH # - 80	CATCH # - 44	CATCH # - 30
	Commercial fishing	Ocean pollution
Station # 101	Station #102	Station #103
CATCHWT – 12.100 kg	CATCHWT – 12.454 kg	CATCHWT – 40.400 kg
CATCH # - 102	CATCH # - 145	CATCH # - 537
Station #104	Station # 105	Station #106
CATCHWT – 44.094 kg	CATCHWT – 9.920 kg	CATCHWT – 1.260 kg
CATCH # - 1,730	CATCH # - 288	CATCH # - 85
Few predators in the		
area, high populations of		
phytoplankton and		
detritus to eat		
Station # 107	Station # 108	Station #109
CATCHWT – 33.680 kg	CATCHWT – 96.265 kg	CATCHWT – 139.185 kg
CATCH # - 607	CATCH # - 2,040	CATCH # - 14,446
	Full strength seawater for	High populations of
	spawning	phytoplankton and
		microzooplankton

Station # - 110 CATCHWT - 3.230 kg CATCH # - 495 Station # 113 CATCHWT - 34.920 kg CATCH # - 915 Optimal water parameters and plenty of food	Station # 111 CATCHWT - 25.680 kg CATCH # - 181 Station # 114 CATCHWT -28.660 kg CATCH # - 135	Station # 112 CATCHWT - 80.456 kg CATCH # - 552 Station 115 CATCHWT - 12.196 kg CATCH # - 45 Unsuitable surfaces for delicate spat to settle on
Station #116 CATCHWT – 12.740 kg CATCH # - 54 Ocean dumping in the area	Station #117 CATCHWT – 20.464 kg CATCH # - 181	Station # 118 CATCHWT – 14.920 kg CATCH # - 67

Station # 119 CATCHWT – 12.720 kg CATCH # - 37 Ocean drilling for oil and gas in the area	3 rd Leg	Station # 120 CATCHWT – 106.540 kg CATCH # - 234
Station # 121	Station # 122	Station # 123
CATCHWT – 20.700 kg	CATCHWT – 5.529 kg	CATCHWT – 2.280 kg
CATCH # - 176	CATCH # - 26	CATCH # - 7
	Low populations of	Commercial fishing in the
	phytoplankton and	area
	microzooplankton in the	
	area (food source)	
Station # 124	Station # 125	Station # 126
CATCHWT – 22.572 kg	CATCHWT – 8.040 kg	CATCHWT – 3.480 kg

CATCH # - 162	CATCH # - 32 Natural mortality of adult scallops	CATCH # - 19 School of Atlantic cod in the area
Station #127 CATCHWT – 17.300 kg CATCH # - 99	Station #128 CATCHWT - 0.780 kg CATCH # - 2 Commercial fishing in the area	Station #129 CATCHWT – 8.220 kg CATCH # - 42 High population of lobsters (Homarus americanus) in the area
Station #130 CATCHWT – 4.280 kg CATCH # - 27 Unsuccessful larval distribution in the area	Station #131 CATCHWT – 21.120 kg CATCH # - 85	Station #132 27.640 kg CATCH # - 121
Station # 133 CATCHWT - 0.808 kg CATCH # - 4 Elevated concentrations of inorganic suspended material which interfere with feeding	Station #134 CATCHWT – 35.120 kg CATCH # - 212	Station #135 CATCHWT – 27.840 kg CATCH # - 189
Station #136 CATCHWT – 22.560 kg CATCH # - 76 Predators present during spawning of the scallops	Station #137 CATCHWT - 5.160 kg CATCH # - 12 High population of groundfish such as winter flounder and sculpins	Station #138 CATCHWT - 0.810 kg CATCH # - 4 Trawling and dredging in the area
Station #139 CATCHWT – 4.960 kg CATCH # - 14 Commercial fishing in the area	Station #141 CATCHWT – 32.717 kg CATCH # - 190	Station #142 CATCHWT – 18.619 kg CATCH # - 137

Station #143 CATCHWT – 12.120 kg	Station #144 CATCHWT – 14.660 kg	Station #145 CATCHWT – 5.480 kg
CATCH # - 84	CATCH # - 93	CATCH # - 28
		Low salinity in the area –
		14.0 ppt (lethal)
Station #146	Station #147	Station #148
CATCHWT – 6.480 kg	CATCHWT – 0.573 kg	CATCHWT – 21.020 kg
CATCH # - 35	CATCH # - 1	CATCH # - 207
Mortality during natural	Population explosion of	
settlement of larvae	toxic phytoplankton	
Station #149	Station #150	Station #151
CATCHWT – 6.340 kg	CATCHWT – 51.300 kg	CATCHWT – 5.540 kg
CATCH # - 25	CATCH # - 147	CATCH # - 40
Ocean pollution from		Commercial
shipping spills		fishing/dredging
Station #152	Station #153	Station #154
CATCHWT – 15.380 kg	CATCHWT – 2.080 kg	CATCHWT – 6.960 kg
CATCH # - 106	CATCH # - 10	CATCH # - 37
	High population of sea	Low survival rate of spat
	stars in the area –	due to shifting sand
	Crossater papposos and	bottom
	Astropectin americanus	
Station #155	Station #156	Station #157
CATCHWT – 1.499 kg	CATCHWT – 4.180 kg	CATCHWT – 116.440 kg
CATCH # - 25	CATCH # - 31	CATCH # - 724
Eel pouts, wolf fish and	Low phytoplankton and	Closed area to
lobsters (predators) in the	microzooplankton (food	commercial fishing and
area	source)	harvesting

Station #158 CATCHWT – 488.553 kg CATCH # - 3,188 No commercial harvesting in the area	Station #159 CATCHWT – 28.809 kg CATCH # - 119	Station #160 CATCHWT – 0.172 kg CATCH # - 1 Commercial fishing
Station # 161 CATCHWT – 41.480 kg CATCH # - 280	Station #162 CATCHWT – 18.660 kg CATCH # - 78	Station #163 CATCHWT – 136.560 kg CATCH # - 1,060 Low populations of predators in the area
Station #164 CATCHWT - 75.320 kg CATCH # - 460	Station #165 CATCHWT – 35.740 kg CATCH # - 361	Station #166 CATCHWT – 90.568 kg CATCH # - 337

Station # 167	Station #169	Station #170
CATCHWT – 15.920 kg	CATCHWT – 89.001 kg	CATCHWT – 150.060 kg
CATCH # - 80	CATCH # - 376	CATCH # - 426
Station #171	Station # 173	Station #174
CATCHWT – 35.644 kg	CATCHWT – 63.664 kg	CATCHWT – 664.599 kg
CATCH # - 135	CATCH # - 325	CATCH # - 5,062
		Optimal water
		parameters and food
Station # 175	Station #176	Station # 177
CATCHWT – 120.585 kg	CATCHWT – 63.495 kg	CATCHWT – 5.262 kg
CATCH # - 764	CATCH # - 212	CATCH # - 26
		Harmful algal bloom
		release toxins
Station # 178	Station #179	Station #180
CATCHWT- 40.109 kg	CATCHWT – 23.940 kg	CATCHWT – 271.680 kg

CATCH # - 197	CATCH # - 202	CATCH# - 672
Station # 181	Station # 182	Station #183
CATCHWT – 2.840 kg	CATCHWT – 7.740 kg	CATCHWT – 93.800 kg
CATCH # - 12 Boring polychaetes present (Polidora websteri)	CATCH # - 20 High populations of sea stars (Astropectin americanus)	CATCH # - 814 Few predators in the area
Station # 184	Station # 185	Station # 186
CATCHWT – 101.065 kg	CATCHWT – 49.360 kg	CATCHWT – 44.020 kg
CATCH # - 370	CATCH # - 455	CATCH # - 397
Station # 187 CATCHWT – 29.160 kg	Station # 188 CATCHWT – 17.240 kg	Station # 189 CATCHWT – 14.408 kg
CATCH # - 414	CATCH # - 87	CATCH # - 52
Station # 190	Station # 191	Station #192
CATCHWT – 18.998 kg	CATCHWT – 12.524 kg	CATCHWT – 1.755 kg
CATCH # - 82	CATCH # - 64	CATCH # - 7
		Larvae preyed on by filter
		feeders and planktonic
		carnivores

Student Data Sheet

Station #	Catch wt	Catch #	Environmental Scenario	Natural or Human Impact
		_		

Total catch	wt:	Total catch #:

Discussion Questions:

- 1. Based on catch weight and catch numbers, does this surveyed area appear sustainable? Explain your answer.
- 2. Discuss five anthropogenic activities that have a negative impact on the Atlantic Sea Scallop population.
- 3. List five predators of the Atlantic Sea Scallop.
- 4. Discuss three natural causes of sea scallop mortality.
- 5. Discuss how the closure of an area to commercial fishing for a given period of time would affect a sea scallop population.
- 6. Discuss the following legislation:
 - a) Sustainable Fisheries Act
 - b) Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act
- 7. Discuss Tragedy of the Commons and free-access resources and how it relates to this lesson.
- 8. Research and explain how each of the following is used in population counts:
 - a) Woods Hole Habitat Camera (HabCam)
 - b) FSCS System Fisheries Scientific Computer System